

Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)

Original Novel · Chugong

Story · h-goon

65


THE HUNTERS' AUCTION MARKET.



AN ONLINE AND OFFLINE MARKET WHERE MATERIALS AND ITEMS OBTAINED DURING RAIDS ARE EITHER PUT UP FOR AUCTION, OR SOLD TO OTHER HUNTERS.

THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF HUNTERS IN KOREA...

..WHO USE THIS AUCTION MARKET TO TRADE AND SELL EQUIPMENT.



GOOD EQUIPMENT CAN
QUITE LITERALLY SAVE
A HUNTER'S LIFE,

SO IT GOES WITHOUT
SAYING THAT HUNTERS WHO
UTILIZE GOOD EQUIPMENT
ARE ABLE TO BETTER
PROTECT THEMSELVES.

D-RANK AND E-RANK HUNTERS
USUALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO BUY
ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY DON'T
MAKE AS MUCH MONEY AS THE
HIGHER-RANKING HUNTERS,

PARK,
YOU'VE STILL
GOT IT.


THIS IS
A PIECE OF
CAKE.

LOOKS LIKE
THINGS ARE JUST
ABOUT DONE
HERE!

LOOKS LIKE
THE PAY'S NOT BAD,
CONSIDERING THE
STRIKE SQUAD IS A
PRIVATE ENTITY.

EVERYONE SEEMS
TO HAVE PROPER
EQUIPMENT...

THIS SURE IS
DIFFERENT FROM THE
D-RANK AND E-RANK
DUNGEONS I'VE
BEEN GOING TO.



BUT THEY ARE ABLE
TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THE
EQUIPMENT THEY NEED IF THEY
JOIN A STRIKE SQUAD THAT
GOES ON REGULAR RAIDS.

ALL OF THE
EQUIPMENT USED
BY HUNTERS IS
IMBUED WITH
MAGIC,

SO EVEN A D-RANK
HUNTER'S SHODDY
SWORD COSTS A
FORTUNE.

I REMEMBER
MR. KIM SAYING THAT
HE BOUGHT THIS
SWORD FOR THREE
MILLION WON.

I CAN'T AFFORD
ANYTHING LIKE IT...
SO I'LL JUST USE
THIS FOR THE
TIME BEING.

THIS INVENTORY
FEATURE IS PRETTY
HANDY.

[ITEM: KIM SANGSHIK'S
STEEL SWORD]
TYPE: SWORD
ATTACK +10

CAN I STORE
RANDOM STUFF
IN HERE?

BECAUSE HUNTERS
THAT ARE C-RANK OR HIGHER
ARE GUARANTEED A HIGH INCOME,
THEY'RE ABLE TO PURCHASE GEAR
THAT WILL HELP PROTECT THEM IN
BATTLE AND SPEED UP THE HUNT.

IT'S NOT SURPRISING
THAT EQUIPMENT USED BY
HIGH-RANKING HUNTERS OFTEN
COST MILLIONS, EVEN
BILLIONS OF WON.

WHY IS THIS SO
EXPENSIVE?

SOMETIMES, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
TO PURCHASE GOOD QUALITY
EQUIPMENT WITH PERSONAL
FUNDS ALONE.






I THOUGHT I HAD
ENOUGH SAVED UP
BY NOW, BUT...

I DON'T THINK
I CAN AFFORD
THIS...

THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE
I'LL HAVE TO FIGHT
AGAINST DEMONS THAT
ATTACK WITH FIRE IN THE
UPPER LEVELS OF THE
DEMONS' CASTLE.

THE FIELD ITSELF ALSO
COMBUSTS INTO FLAMES,
SO I NEED SOMETHING
THAT WILL PROTECT ME
FROM GETTING BURNED.



SHOULD I JUST
BUY SOMETHING
FROM THE SHOP
INSTEAD?

BUT THERE'S
NOTHING HERE THAT
SUITS MY NEEDS...

MAYBE THE ONLY WAY
TO GET MY HANDS ON
AN ARTIFACT I WANT IS
TO SELL OFF MY "ORB
OF AVARICE."

ITEM



[ITEM: ORB OF AVARICE]
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: A
TYPE: MAGIC ITEM

AN ORB MADE OF PETRIFIED BLOOD FROM THE
HIGH-RANKING DEMON, VULCAN. IT AMPLIFIES THE
USER'S MAGIC ABILITIES AND INFLECTS GREATER
DAMAGE ON AN OPPONENT.

EFFECT "DESIRE TO DESTROY": MAGIC DAMAGE IS
INCREASED BY TWOFOLD.

I GUESS I'M
LUCKY TO EVEN
HAVE SOMETHING
OF WORTH TO
SELL.

EVEN THE BEST
ARTIFACTS ONLY RAISE
YOUR STRENGTH BY 20
TO 30 PERCENT.

BECAUSE THIS ORB
DOUBLES THE WIELDER'S
MAGIC DAMAGE, I'M SURE
IT WILL SELL AT A
HIGH PRICE.

I WON'T HAVE TO
PUT IT ON THE BLACK
MARKET SINCE IT'S NOT
AN ILLEGAL ITEM,

BUT THE PROBLEM IS,
I'LL HAVE TO DISCLOSE
HOW I CAME INTO
POSSESSION OF THIS
THING...

WHEN PEOPLE SEE
THAT AN E-RANK HUNTER
LISTED AN INCREDIBLY
POWERFUL ARTIFACT
THAT CAN'T BE FOUND
ANYWHERE ELSE,

THEY'LL
PROBABLY TALK.

IT'LL TAKE SOME
TIME TO GET MY NEW
S-RANK HUNTER'S
LICENSE.

CLICK

CLICK

IF ONLY THERE WAS A
RECORD OF ME ENTERING
AN A-RANK GATE OR
SOMETHING... I COULD
USE THAT TO MAKE MY
LISTING SEEM LESS
SUSPICIOUS.

BUT
I'M STILL JUST AN
E-RANKER, SO NOBODY
WOULD LET ME JOIN A
HIGH-RANK RAID
TEAM...



...HUH?

SOMEONE'S
LOOKING TO RECRUIT
A LOW-RANK
HUNTER!



HERE'S
THE FILE YOU
REQUESTED,
SIR.


PHOTO TAKEN
FOUR YEARS
AGO?

HE LOOKS MUCH
YOUNGER.

SUNG JINWOO
WAS CONSIDERED THE
WEAKEST EVEN AMONG
E-RANKERS. THE FILE
CONTAINS HIS HUNTING
RECORD FOR THE
LAST FOUR
YEARS.

IT MUST'VE BEEN LIKE
GOING ON A SUICIDE
MISSION EVERY TIME...
OR PERHAPS HE WAS A


ACCORDING TO



HUNTERS WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM ON THOSE RAIDS, HE WAS MOST DEFINITELY NOT A FALSE RANKER.

BUT THIS IS OVER THE COURSE OF FOUR WHOLE YEARS.

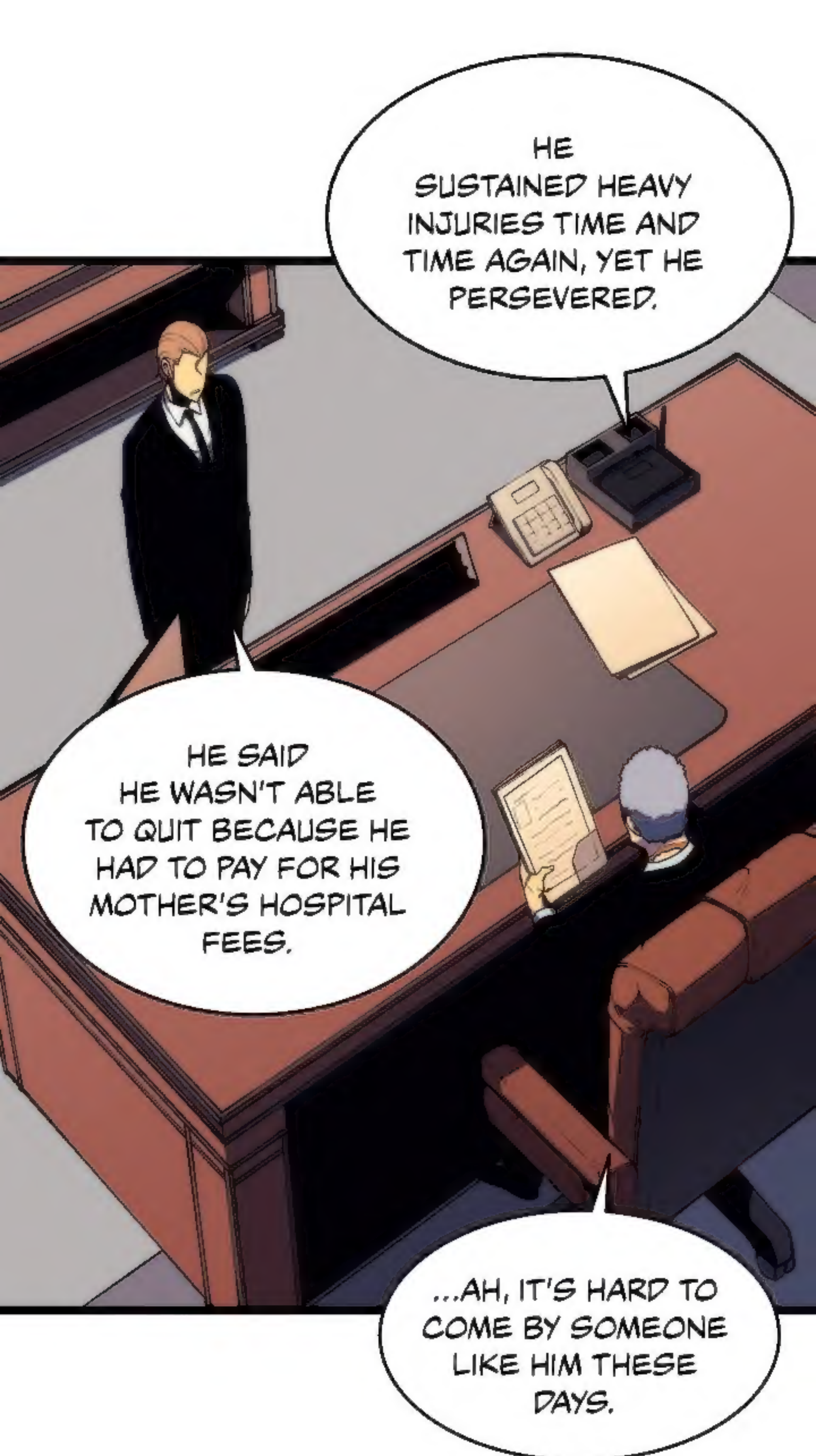
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT HIS REAWAKENING AS AN S-RANK HUNTER WAS NOT A RECENT HAPPENING.

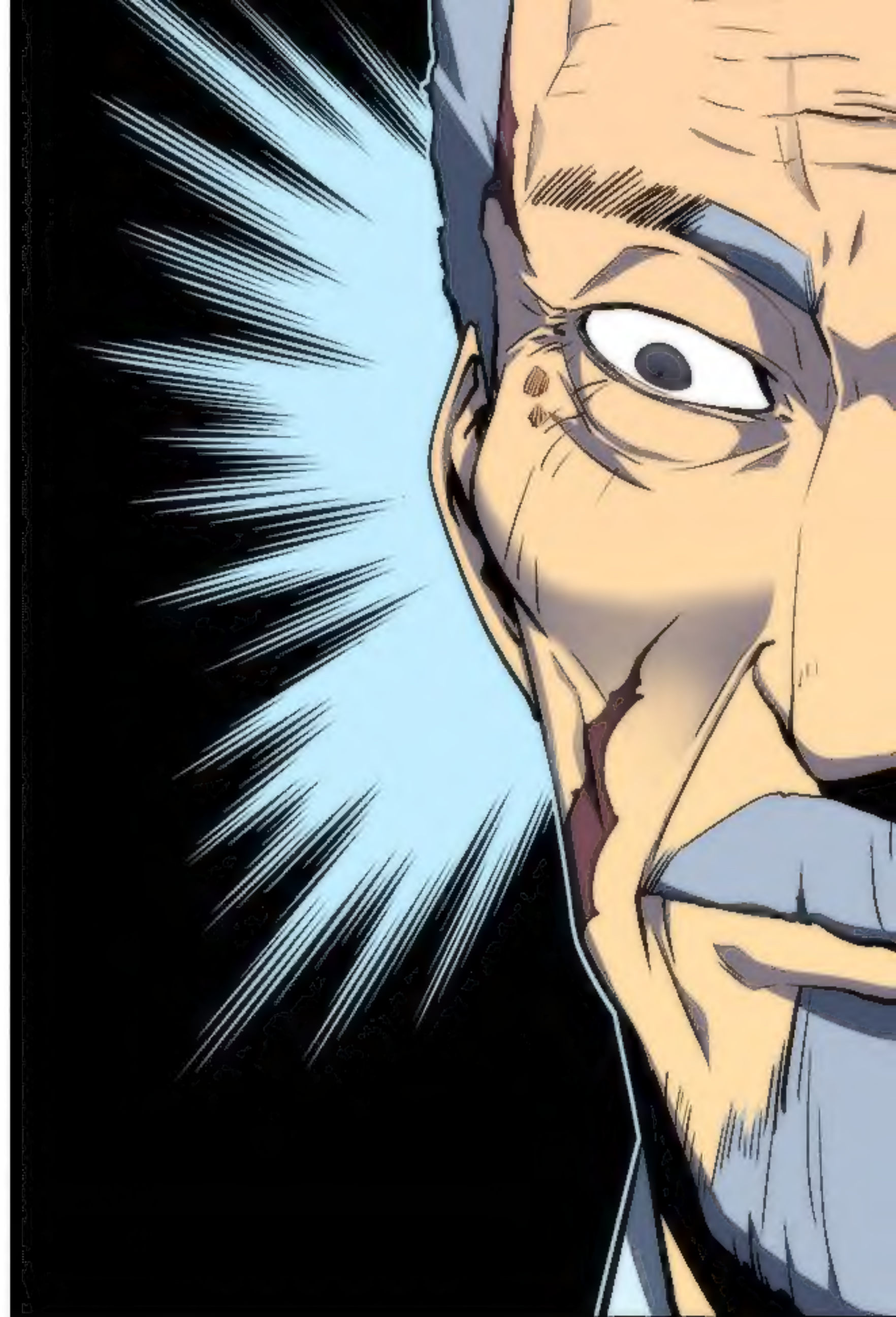


IF THAT WERE TRUE, HE WOULDN'T HAVE ALLOWED HIS FELLOW HUNTERS TO DIE IN THE DOUBLE DUNGEON.

YOU DO HAVE A GOOD EYE.

I WASN'T THE ONE WHO DEFEATED THE BEASTS INSIDE THE DOUBLE DUNGEON.



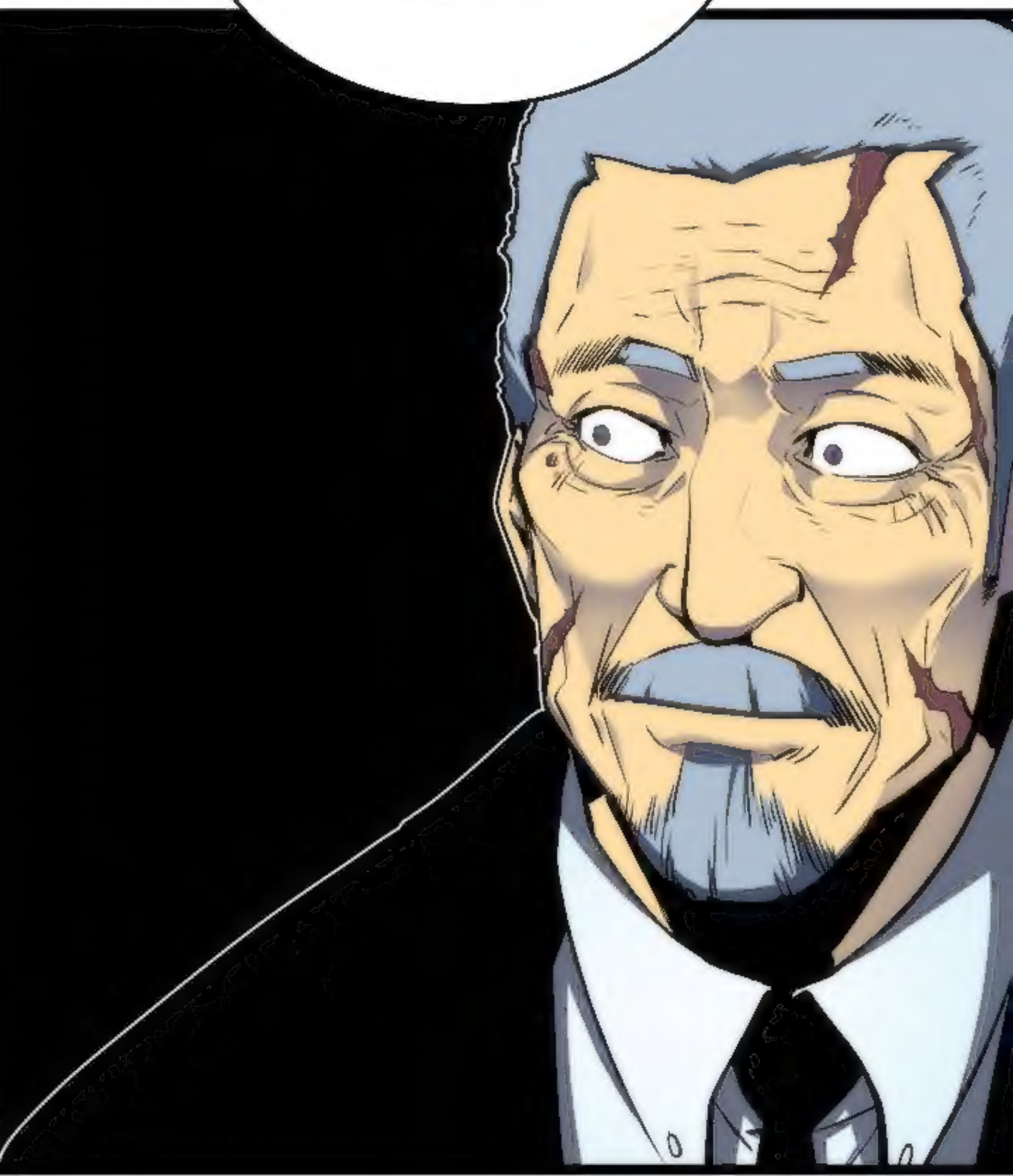


WAS HE ALL JUST TALK?
MAYBE HE WAS ACTUALLY
MORE INTERESTED IN THE
HEFTY DOWN PAYMENT
THE HUNTERS GUILD
OFFERED HIM.

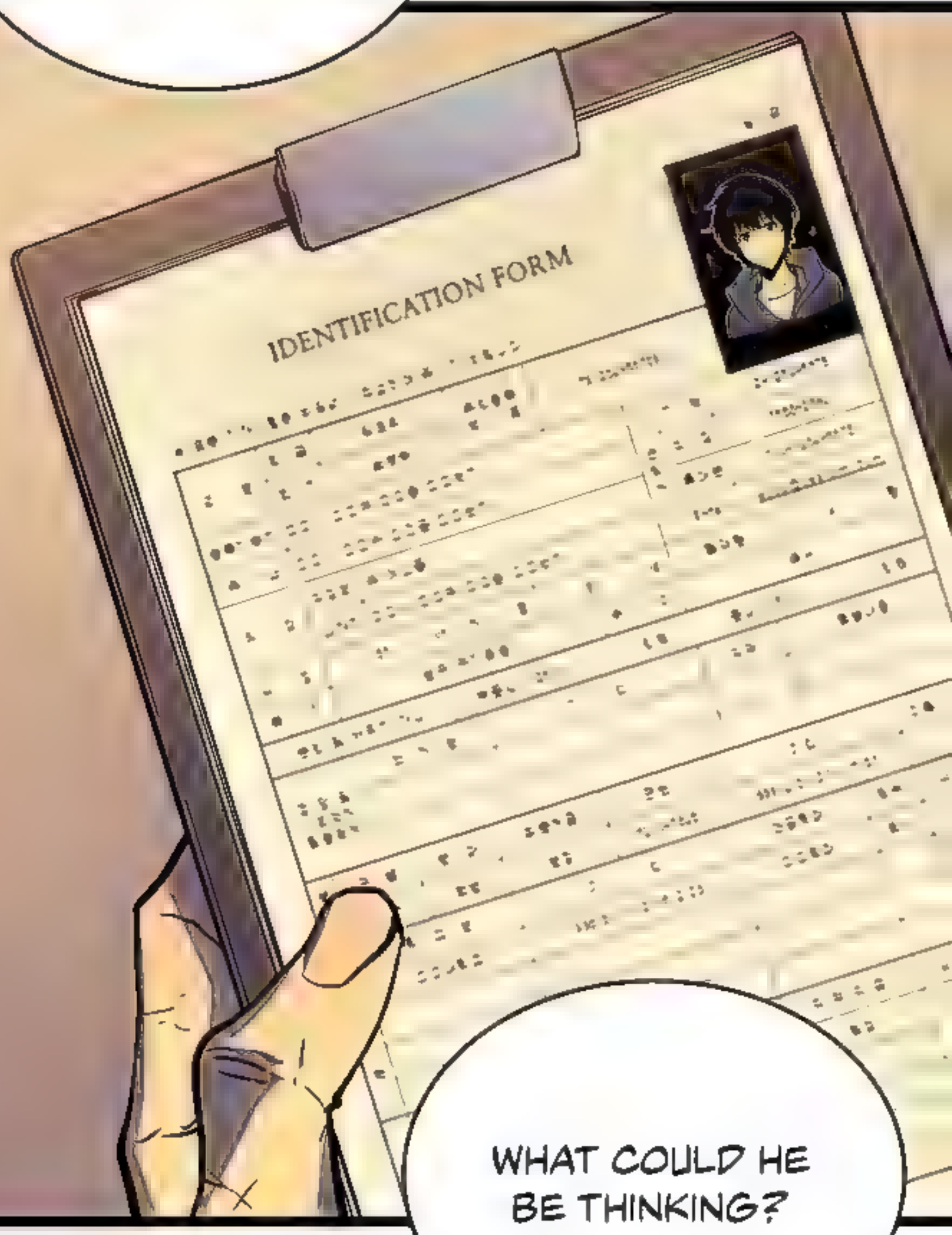


ACCORDING TO
MY SOURCE,

MR. SLUNG
HAS JOINED A
MINING TEAM,
NOT A STRIKE
SQUAD.



AN S-RANK
HUNTER APPLIED TO
BE A MINER...?



WHAT COULD HE
BE THINKING?

YOU'RE AN
E-RANKER?





DO
YOU HAVE ANY
EXPERIENCE IN
THIS FIELD OF
WORK?

NO, I DON'T.

THEN... WHAT'S
YOUR CLASS?

I'M A FIGHTER.

THAT'S
GOOD TO
HEAR.

THERE ARE A LOT
OF HUNTERS HERE
LIKE YOU, JINWOO,

SO DON'T BE
NERVOUS.

HAHA

HEAD IN
WITH THE REST OF
THE GUYS WHEN IT'S
OUR TURN.

OH, AND DON'T
FORGET YOUR
TOOLS.

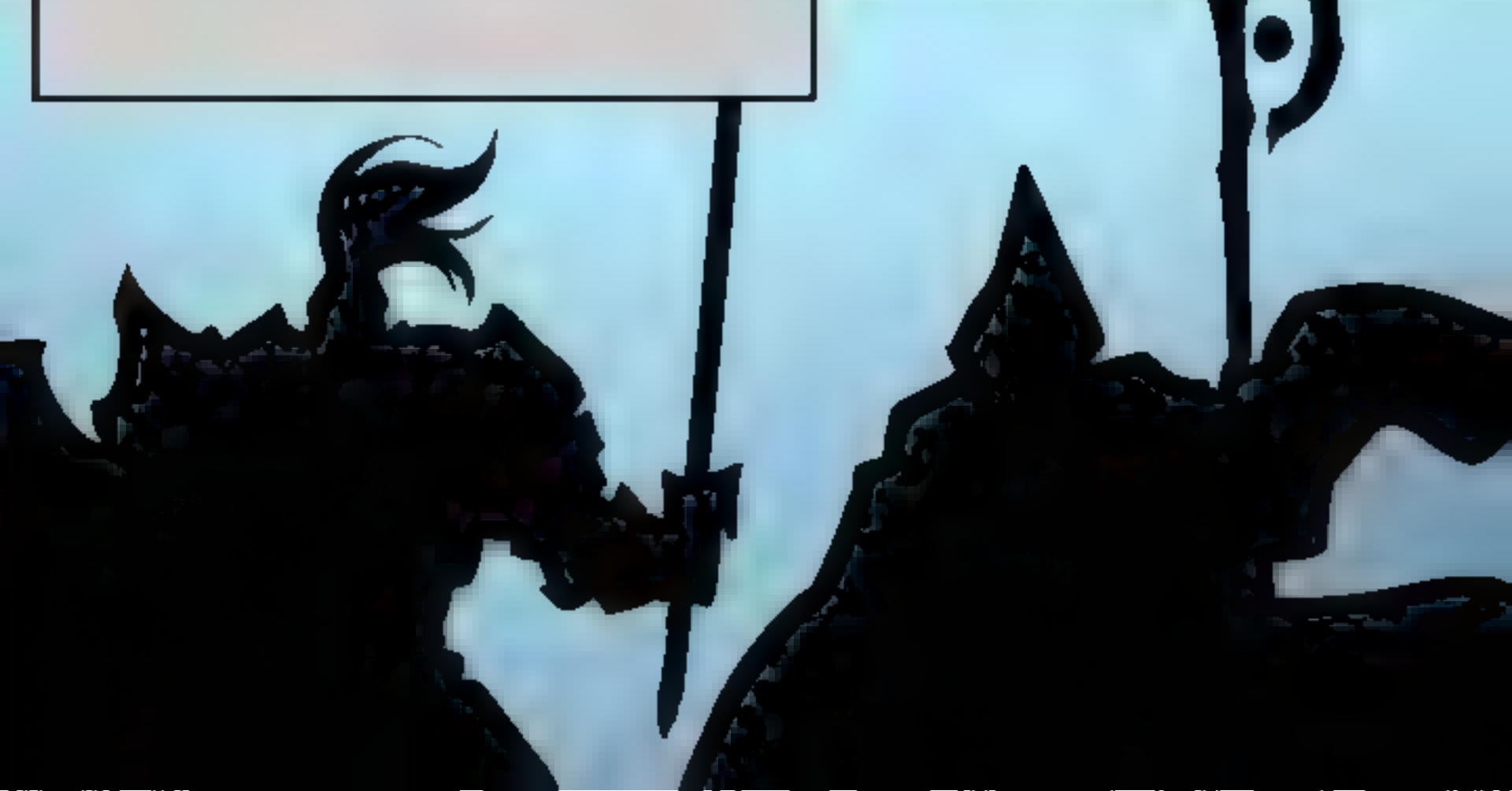
OKAY.


A HIGH-RANKING DUNGEON
IS MASSIVE, SO A SINGLE
STRIKE SQUAD CAN'T TAKE
CARE OF EVERYTHING.

THAT'S WHY THE WORK
IS SPLIT UP BETWEEN
DIFFERENT TEAMS.




THE STRIKE
SQUAD BATTLES
MAGIC BEASTS,





THE MINING
TEAM MINES
CRYSTALS,

AND THE HAULING
TEAM COLLECTS
THE BEASTS'
CORPSES.



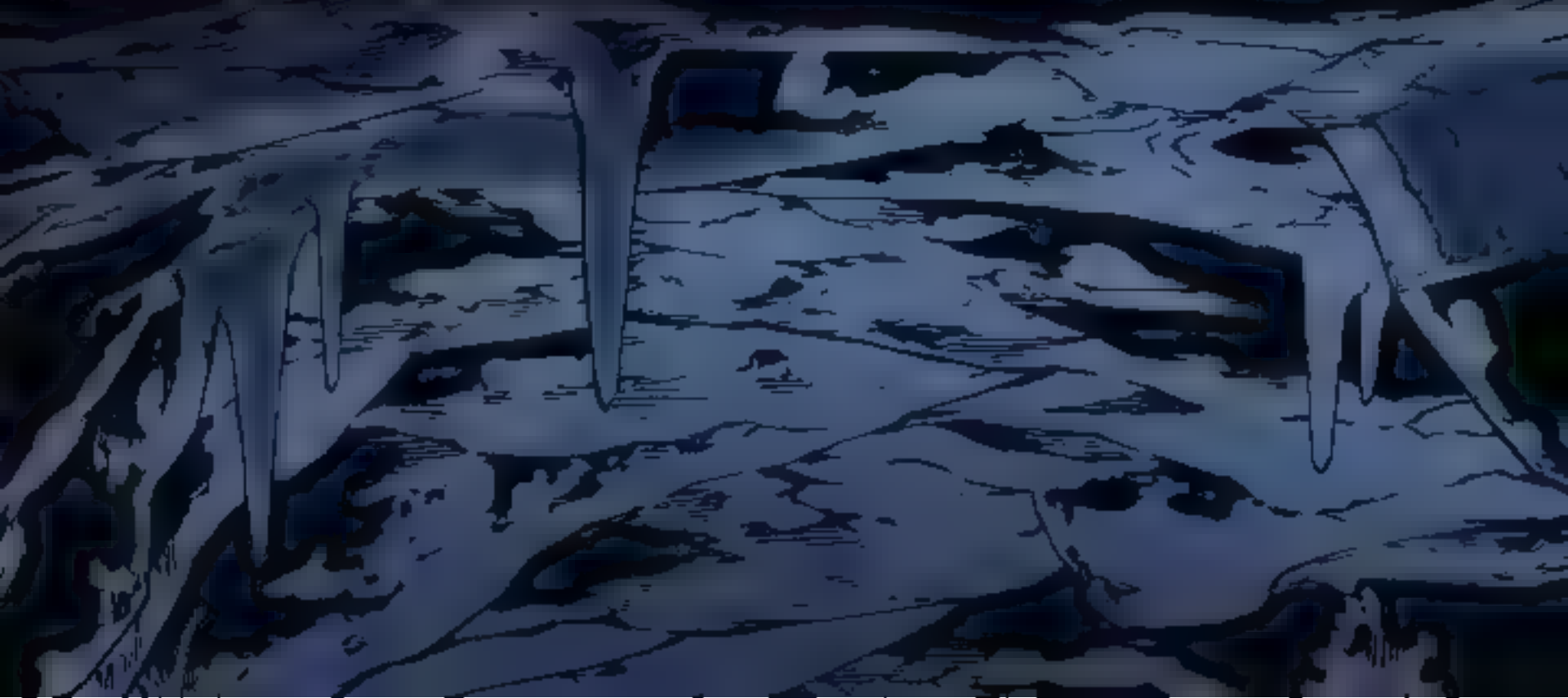
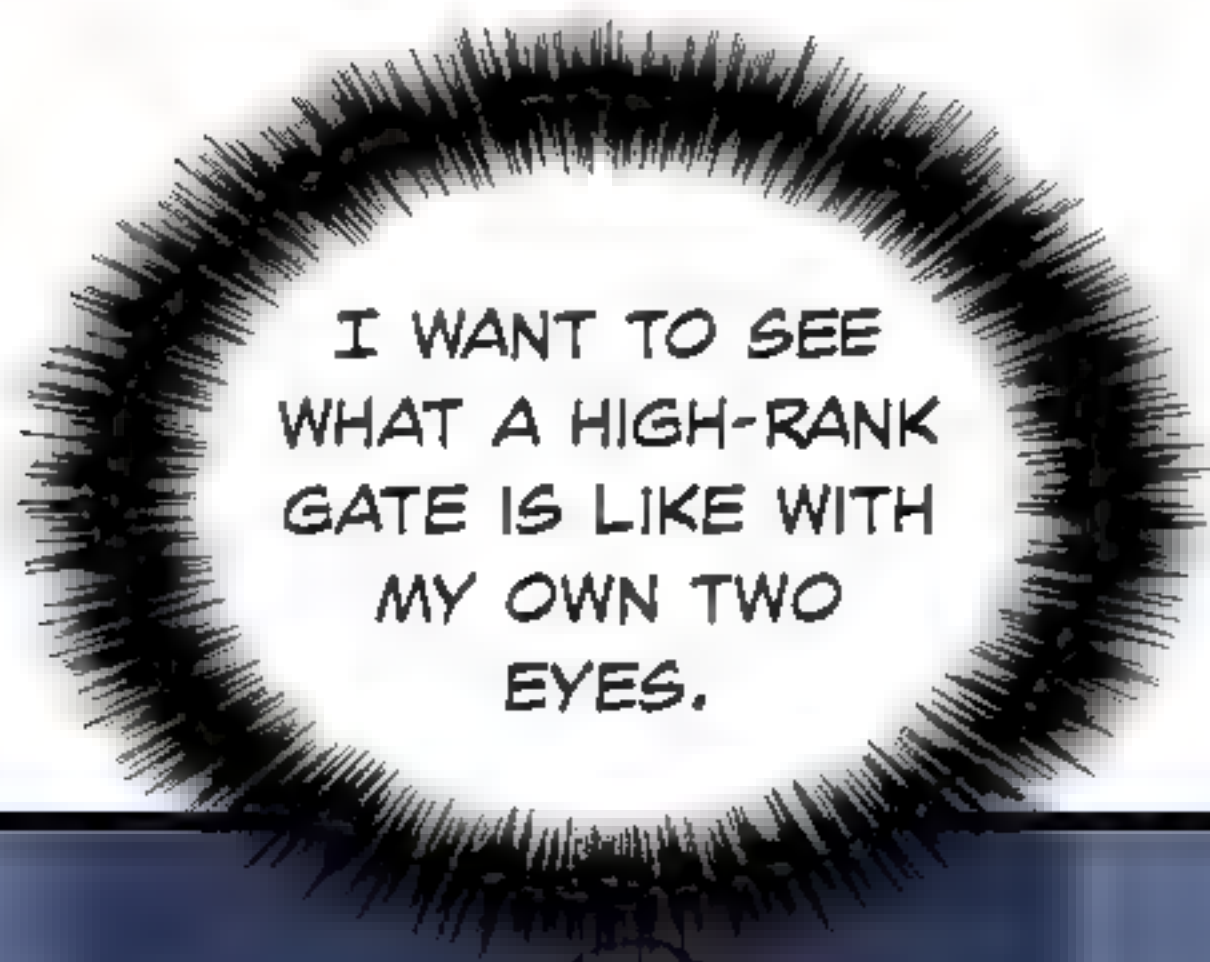
THE MINING TEAM AND
HAULING TEAM ARE SENT
INTO THE DUNGEON AFTER
ALL THE BEASTS, WITH THE
EXCEPTION OF THE BOSS,
HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE
A NUMBER OF WORKERS
ON THESE TEAMS,

MACHINES THAT
RUN ON ELECTRICITY DON'T
WORK INSIDE THE DUNGEONS,
SO THEY MUST RESORT TO
OLD-FASHIONED METHODS.



EVEN THIS PICKAXE
IS INFUSED WITH
MAGIC.





THIS DUNGEON
IS QUITE BIG.

THIS IS
GOING TO TAKE
LONGER THAN
EXPECTED...

BUT
WE'LL MESS UP THE
NEXT TEAM'S SCHEDULE
IF WE DRAG THIS OUT
ANY LONGER.









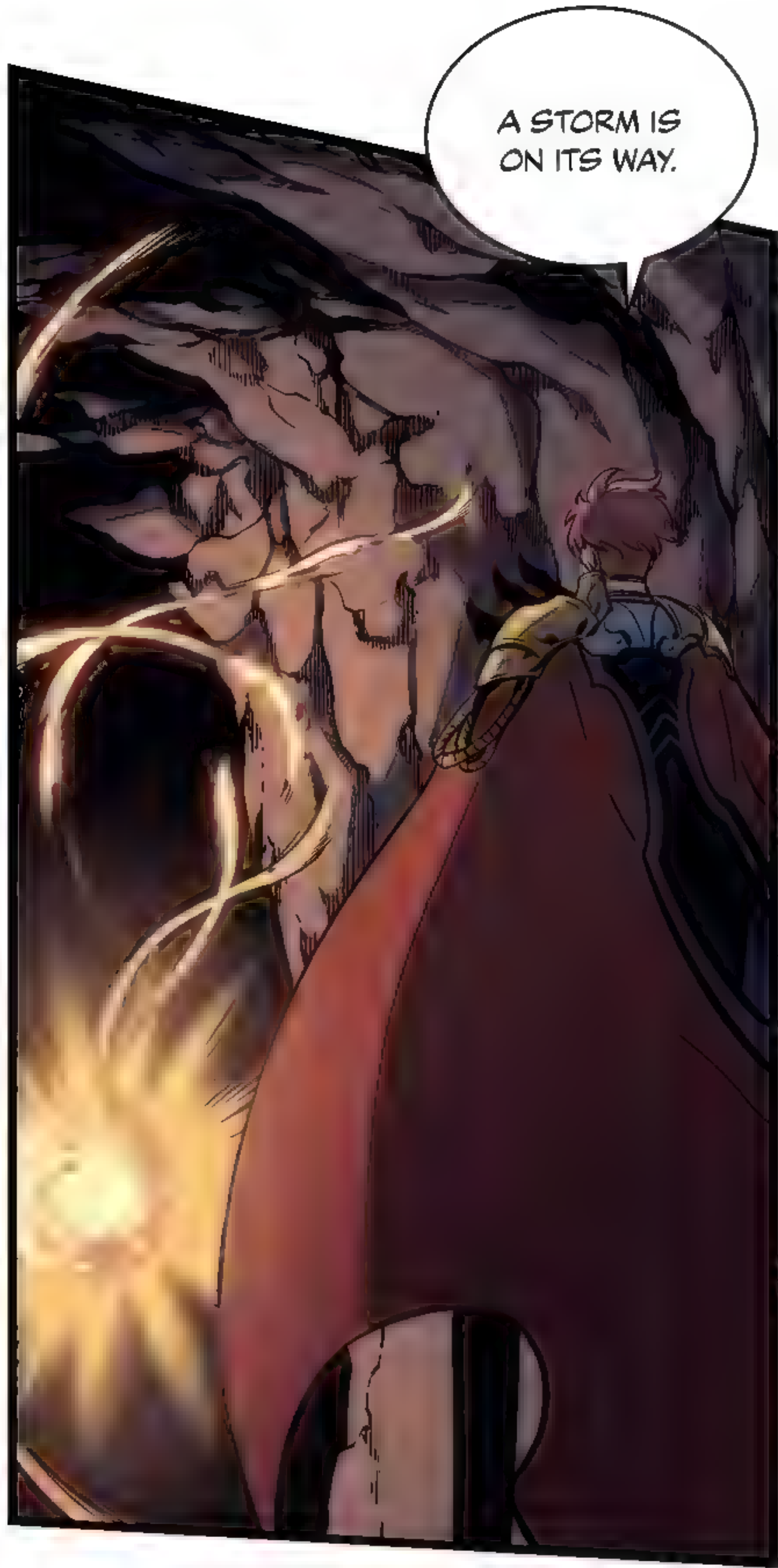




TANKS,
GET READY.

SWISH





A STORM IS
ON ITS WAY.







WE MIGHT NOT BE
ABLE TO MAKE USE OF
CORPSES THAT ARE
"COOKED" UNTIL WELL
DONE, SO I HELD
BACK A BIT.



I'M NOT
SURE HOW DEEP THIS
DUNGEON GOES, BUT ALL
THE BEASTS IN THE VICINITY
HAVE PROBABLY TURNED
INTO ASHES BY NOW.


DANG... HE'S
IMPRESSIVE...




NO MATTER HOW
MANY TIMES I SEE HIM
IN ACTION, I'M ALWAYS
IN AWE OF HIS
POWERS.




LET ME
ESCORT YOU TO
SAFETY.



WATCH OUT FOR THE
BURNT SMELL. I KNOW
YOU HAVE A SENSITIVE
NOSE.



WHEN IS THE
STRIKE SQUAD
GONNA GET
HERE?

A comic book panel showing a man in a dark suit and tie on the left, looking towards a miner on the right. The miner is wearing a tan helmet with a headlamp, a beard, and a tan work shirt. The background is a dark, rocky cave with blue light filtering in from above.

YOU SAID THEY WERE
ALMOST DONE A WHILE
AGO. WHAT'S TAKING
SO LONG?

THEY'RE
ALMOST FINISHED,
I PROMISE.

THIS IS ALL TO
ENSURE THE SAFETY
OF YOU AND YOUR
TEAM,

SO PLEASE
WAIT JUST A LITTLE
BIT LONGER UNTIL
THEY TAKE CARE OF
ALL THE MAGIC
BEASTS INSIDE.

YOU'VE SAID
THE SAME THING
THREE TIMES
ALREADY.

WHAT IF THEY DO
A HASTY JOB AND A
BEAST POPS OUT WHILE
YOU'RE TRYING TO MINE
FOR CRYSTALS? WE
CAN'T HAVE THAT,
RIGHT? PLEASE
UNDERSTAND.

WHAT DO YOU
SAY WE GO OUT
FOR DRINKS
LATER?

GEEZ... OKAY,
OKAY. GET OFF MY
BACK, MAN.





THE "HUNTERS"!



...THERE'S
CHOI JONG-IN.



THERE COMES THE
SECOND-IN-COMMAND.



AND SHE
MUST BE...





...THE HUNTERS'
VICE GUILD
MASTER!

To Be Continued...

Solo Leveling

D&C
WEBTOON

Translator: JJoelle

Editor: Michelle Kim